

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Health Resources and Services Administration**

*Bureau of Health Professions*

Division of Nursing

**AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

**ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION EXPANSION  
(ANEE) PROGRAM**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Revised July 12, 2010**

July 2, 2010  
Revised July 12, 2010

# ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION EXPANSION (ANEE) PROGRAM

## Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose.....	2
Summary of Funding.....	3
Eligibility.....	4
Eligible Use of Funds.....	5
Reporting.....	13

## Purpose

**What is the purpose of the Advanced Nursing Education Expansion (ANEE) funding opportunity?**

**The program's two purposes are 1) to increase the number of students enrolled full time in accredited primary care Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwifery programs, and 2) to accelerate the graduation of part time student in such programs by encouraging full time enrollment.** The program provides support to master's, post master's and, on a limited basis, doctor of nursing practice (DNP) students to complete their program of study by funding stipends, educational expenses or other reasonable living expenses for \$22,000 per student per year, for a maximum of two years per student.

**What is the definition for "primary care"?**

"Primary Care" means the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians, including nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives, who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs within their scopes of practice, developing a sustained partnership with clients, and practicing in the context of family and communities. Critical elements also include accountability of clinicians and systems for quality of care, consumer satisfaction, efficient use of resources, and ethical behavior. Clients have direct access to an appropriate source of care, which continues over time for a variety of problems and includes needs for preventive services. The Guidelines use "Primary Care" and "Primary Health Care" interchangeably. (Definition adapted from Barbara Starfield, Primary Care Concept, Evaluation, and Policy, Oxford University Press, New York, 1992 p. 4 and Institute of Medicine: Moila S. Donaldson, Karl D. Yorby, Kathleen N., and Neal A. Vanselow, Editors, Committee on the Future of Primary Care, Division of Health Care Services, Primary Care: America's Health in a New Era, Summary, National Academy Press, Washington, DC, 1996, p. 23.)

## Summary of Funding

### How much funding is available? [Revised July 12, 2010]

The Program will provide a total of \$30 million in funding for Federal fiscal years 2010 through 2014. It is anticipated that HRSA will fund approximately 40 schools. The award amount per school will depend on the proposed number of eligible students the school requests funds to enroll as 1) new students or 2) convert from part-time to full-time students. All funding will be provided in FY 2010, at the time of the award; however, there will be limitations on the drawn down amount of funding each year.

There are limitations on the amount of funding that may be used for indirect charges; these costs may be requested above the \$22,000 per student. Each student must receive the full award of \$22,000 minus other authorized program expenses as outlined in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for each year of the two participating years.

### How do eligible entities apply for ANEE funds?

Funding opportunity announcement HRSA-10-281 is currently open, and will close in both Grants.gov and HRSA's Electronic Handbooks on July 19.

### How many applications did your office receive in the last round of funding, and of those, how many were awarded?

Fiscal year 2010 is the first year for the development, implementation and funding of the Advanced Nursing Education Expansion (ANEE) Initiative. It is anticipated that HRSA will fund approximately 40 schools in this initiative.

### May we include appendices as additional attachments, as long as we remain within the maximum page limit? For example, we were thinking about including the full-time program plans for our various PC NP programs (we have eight) in an appendix.

If you use the appendix to describe the primary care NP programs at your institution, please ensure that you note this in the application narrative, so that the reviewers will know where to obtain information regarding the various programs. Also, please ensure that you pay strict attention to the page limit. If your application exceeds the page limit it will not be reviewed.

### When will the grant be awarded?

ANEE funds will be awarded in September 2010.

### Is there any formal notification of an ANEE award from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)?

Yes. HRSA will electronically transmit a formal notification in the form of a Notice of Grant Award (NGA) that will be provided to the ANEE applicant organization/institution.

## Eligibility

### **Who are eligible entities for this funding opportunity?**

Eligible applicants are collegiate schools of nursing, academic health centers, and other private or public entities **accredited** by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education that offer PC NP and nurse-midwifery programs and have students enrolled in a master's or post-master's PC NP program, DNP and/or a nurse-midwifery program.

### **Can I apply to the ANEE Initiative as an individual?**

No; individuals are not eligible to apply on their own behalf. Eligible applicants are collegiate schools of nursing, academic health centers, and other private or public entities accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education that offer and have students enrolled in a primary care nurse practitioner program and/or an accredited nurse-midwifery program.

### **We have scheduled an October site visit for DNP accreditation; can we apply?**

Yes. In the Narrative explain where you are in the accreditation process with the DNP, and provide a letter of documentation of accreditation for your Master's degree program.

### **We have three advanced nursing education degree programs that would be eligible for this ANEE initiative -- Nurse Practitioner, Nurse-Midwifery, and Doctorate of Nursing Practice. Can an institution submit more than one application?**

Submit one application that would apply for stipend funding for students in all of the primary care NP and nurse-midwifery programs.

Note: If the students in a post master's DNP program are already nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives, they are not eligible for stipends under this initiative.

### **Can our university have just the nurse practitioner program and still be eligible? Or is there a requirement to have both nurse practitioner and nurse midwifery programs for eligibility?**

. The applicant can have both nurse practitioner and nurse-midwifery programs to be eligible, or just one of these programs to be eligible. Eligible applicants are collegiate schools of nursing, academic health centers, and other private or public entities accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education that offer PC NP and/or nurse-midwifery programs and have students enrolled in a master's or post-master's PC NP program, DNP **and/or** a nurse-midwifery program.

## Eligible Use of Funds

### Are there any program-specific requirements? [Revised July 12, 2010]

The grantee is responsible for the disbursement of grant funds to eligible students. Funding requests must be exactly \$22,000 per student supported by the program per year, plus indirect costs. ANEE grant funds may be used only to support stipends, educational expenses, indirect costs or other reasonable living expenses awarded under the terms of the Notice of Grant Award (NGA). Trainee travel (including daily commuting costs) is NOT an allowable expense.

Specific program guidelines and requirements are described on pages 7-10 of the funding opportunity announcement.

### What is a Stipend?

“**Stipend**” means a payment made to an individual under a fellowship or training grant in accordance with established levels to provide for the individual’s reasonable living expenses during the period of training and other educational expenses. A stipend is not considered compensation for the services expected of an employee.

### Who are eligible participants?

Eligible Students – To be eligible for ANEE support, the student must be:

- 1) enrolled full-time in an accredited primary care nurse practitioner program or nurse-midwife program;
- 2) a current part time students converting to full-time status. These students are eligible because this program is designed to help accelerate the graduation of current part time student in such programs.
- 3) pursuing a Master’s, a combined RN to Master’s degree, a post-nursing Master’s certificate, Doctorate of Nursing Practice or a certificate in nurse-midwifery from a program in existence on November 12, 1998;
- 4) able to complete the program within the two year participant period IF they are a Doctorate of Nursing Practice student;
- 5) a citizen of the United States, a non-citizen national, or foreign national who possesses a visa permitting permanent residence in the United States (Individuals on temporary or student visas are not eligible to receive ANEE stipend support.);
- 6) eligible to sit for national nursing certification in the nursing specialty or field of study following graduation. Include a statement in the Program Narrative listing the national nursing certification exam(s) that graduates will be eligible to sit for upon completion of the program;
- 7) committed to graduating from the primary care nurse practitioner or nurse-midwifery program; and
- 8) committed to serve the population through leadership and direct care in primary health care after graduation.

### Are Adult / Pediatric/Family Psychiatric Mental Health students eligible?

Adult Psychiatric Mental Health NP, Pediatric PMHNP and Family PMHNP are eligible as primary care nurse practitioner specialties.

**On page 17 of the funding opportunity announcement, the first paragraph of introduction states "The program provides masters, post masters and, on a limited basis, doctor of nursing practice students with...." Could you clarify/quantify the limited basis of doctor of nursing practice students? Are we limited in other words to a maximum number of DNP students for whom we request funding?**

The reference to "limited basis" for the doctor of nursing practice students is referring to bullet 4 of Eligible Students under Program Requirements (around page 7), that states "able to complete the program within the two year participant period if they are a Doctorate of Nursing Practice student". It is not referencing the number of DNP students who may participate. You can delete the words limited basis. The DNP students may receive the stipend awards for their last two years before graduation.

**If a student receives AENT and SDS, could the same student also receive ANEE?**

Yes. The applicant could award the student additional funds from other sources as part of a financial aid package.

**Even though you get the grant money in one full lump sum, are you restricted from pulling down funds for additional funds for future years if there are more students than initially projected?**

As indicated in the funding opportunity announcement, all funding will be provided in FY 2010, at the time of the award. However, there will be limitations on the amount that can be drawn down each year. The applicant submits its requested budget with the application; if the application is recommended and approved for funding, the institution is expected to adhere to the proposed budget plan.

**Our students begin their semester in August; one month earlier than the grant award is made. Many of them will not be able to attend full-time unless they have supplemental funding, and this funding will not be available until September.**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA. However, the student may only be funded for a full academic or calendar (depending on the program of study) year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Could students be part-time in Fall 2010 (their first semester), and go full-time beginning in the second semester?**

Yes, but they will not be eligible to receive the funding until they are full-time.

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the Notice of Grant Award (NGA). However, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**If students begin going full-time in Spring 2011 (the last semester of our academic year), do they only receive \$11,000 for the one semester of the first year and then \$22,000 for the second year?**

Funding cannot be pro-rated. A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program

**Are students who are in their second or subsequent years who are attending full-time or convert from part-time to full-time eligible for funding?**

The award amount per school will depend on the proposed number of eligible students the school requests funds to enroll as 1) new students or 2) convert from part-time to full-time students.

**We are not able to make the award until January 2011? What are the implications?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA. However, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**The grant starts September 30, however, our semester begins September 1<sup>st</sup>. We admit students year round, so would it be OK to have students begin full-time enrollment January 1, 2011 (winter semester) and go full time through December. 31, 2011 to count for the full year (the students would take a full load winter, spring/summer, and fall).]**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**If a student has less than 2 years to graduate but is currently going part-time, but the stipend would enable the student to go full time and complete the program in less than 2 years, is that student eligible?**

Please reference Page 8 and also the Introduction (Page 18) of the ANEE Funding Opportunity Announcement:

The program provides master's, post master's and doctor of nursing practice students who are in their last two years of study before completion of their program with stipends that can be used for reasonable living expenses and other educational expenses. The maximum stipend is \$22,000 per student per year, for a maximum of two years per student. However, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Are we responsible for stipends to equal same amount (\$22,000) for Year 6 to all students in the grant program since it is not covered by the grant?**

Please reference page 19 of the Funding Opportunity Announcement under Work Plan – Approach (see Bullet C). Explain how students who begin receiving funds in Year 5 of the award, but who still have one year of schooling left after the end of the five budget periods, will receive support to continue with their studies once the five budget periods are over.

**Can we put all of the money into stipends, and let the student pay their tuition out of that?**

Yes. “**Stipend**” means a payment made to an individual under a fellowship or training grant in accordance with established levels to provide for the individual's reasonable living expenses during the period of training and other educational expenses. A stipend is not considered compensation for the services expected of an employee. For purposes of this initiative, stipends can be used by the student for reasonable living expenses and other educational costs.

**Budget - Do we need to request the same amount (of trainees, money) each budget year? Given the timing of the award, we may be able to recruit more students to go full time in budget years 2, 3, 4 and 5 than in budget year 1. Or would you recommend that we request the same amount each budget year?**

As stated in the funding opportunity announcement, applicants must enter the number of students to be supported and the stipend amount requested for each student. Therefore the amount requested each year is determined by the number of students supported. Each applicant must project student numbers based on realities anticipated for their recruiting effort.

**There are five categories on the budget form: Tuition/fees/health insurance, Stipends, Travel, Subsistence, and Other. Is it correct that the award can be used for all categories except for travel? Is it our decision how to allocate the money among these categories? It seems to me that we would want to pay out the award as a stipend so that this funding would not take the place of any other funding the student might qualify for, such as loans or tuition waivers. (If we designate it for tuition and fees, for example, we would have to process the payment through our university's financial aid office, and they would reduce the student's aid package accordingly.) If we did designate it for tuition and fees, however, then no indirect costs would be generated and the student would get the full award. Which option would best meet the intention of this initiative?**

Budget categories are limited to "Stipends, Other and Indirect Cost" budget line items. Only these specific line items may be requested in the budget section of the application. The FOA specifically indicates that the support will be paid to students as a "stipend" versus other forms of financial aid. Note that requests for stipend support must fully document that funding will not be used to supplant other available funds, and must either fund an increase in enrollment of the class size or convert part time students to full time students.

**What is included in the "Other" category – Budget?**

Confine your Budget to three Categories: Stipends, Other, Indirect Costs. "Other" could be a requested item that is not included in the Stipends or Indirect Costs categories. Examples of Other might include ACNM Membership, Subscription, CD Fees, and other costs directly related to eligible educational expenses.

**How do we enter our budget numbers?**

On Form E, enter the entire stipend figure (minus indirect cost if you are requesting the indirect costs) multiplied by the number of students projected for each budget period onto the 'Stipend' line. So rather than expecting the system to calculate an individual stipend figure against the figure in the field for number of students, the applicant is calculating the entire budget period stipend figure and entering it.

The total direct cost from Form E is then populated into the total direct cost field in Form G.

The applicant then enters that figure as the total direct cost base in Form H and multiplies it by .08 (indirect rate)—which, when added to the direct costs is the total amount requested for each budget period and the five-year project period cumulative total.

**Is the ANEE classified as a training grant and therefore, a state university is subject to the 8% IDC and not their negotiated rate? [Revised July 12, 2010]**

Yes, ANEE is a training grant. State and local government agencies may request full Indirect Costs. State universities and hospitals are not considered governmental agencies for ANEE. Therefore, the Indirect Cost is capped at 8%. Indirect costs can be requested above the \$22,000 per student.

**The 8% indirect rate can be applied to the entire \$22K per student. Is this correct?**  
**[Revised July 12, 2010]**

The \$22,000 is the maximum amount per student, excluding indirect costs. The IDC rate must therefore be calculated, and is in addition to that amount.

**Is the indirect cost (IDC) of 8% included in the grand total of the \$22,000 per student or is that on top of the \$22,000 + 8% IDC? [Revised July 12, 2010]**

The limit is \$22,000 per student, in addition to any Indirect Costs.

**I would like clarification on the biosketch for the P.I., (project director). The FOA states that the biosketch is in the grants.gov section but then in the HRSA section it is listed as Attachment #3. Do we put the biosketch in both Grants.gov & HRSA attachments, or just in one of them?**

Per page 14 of the ANEE funding opportunity announcement, complete and include the biosketch in the HRSA EHBs.

**Regarding Appendix A, attachment 1 “Tuition, Fees, and Stipends” on page 30, please clarify the differences between items (2) and (3), and items (4) and (5). They appear to be the same.**

The items are repeats; only respond once to questions re: stipends and tuition and fees. Please delete the duplicate statements.

**Do we have to increase the NP student numbers to qualify for this initiative?**

The number of NP students does not have to be increased. The purpose of the project is to have part-time students attend full-time, thereby increasing the number of students enrolled in the primary care nurse practitioner program who are attending full-time, and to encourage new students to enroll full-time in primary care NP and nurse-midwifery programs so that the students complete the program more quickly..

**When would the first awards need to be made to the students? Our academic year begins in August, so if we are funded, our plan is to make the first awards in spring to students who are able to change from part-time to full-time. But that would mean that in the first budget year, the student trainees are only getting funding for half a year. Is that permitted? Or would we need to identify students up front who can enroll full-time for the entire year and if we get funded, make the awards for the entire academic year at that point and time?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Are we permitted to fund a student for less than two years? We may have some current students who are able to go full-time if they receive this stipend and therefore graduate within a year.**

Yes. The award amount per school will depend on the proposed number of eligible students the school requests funds to enroll as 1) new students or 2) convert from part-time to full-time students.

**Can we have only one student for the initial year 2010 then in 2011 and 2012 increase the number of students completing the project in 2014?**

You should include the one student who will be enrolled this September instead of presenting none. For subsequent years, provide your request based on your projected enrollment or recruitment efforts.

**For Year 1 of the grant, can we include Part-time students who will accelerate their plan of study and complete the MSN in one year beginning September 8, 2010 to August 2011 even though funding awards will not be announced until September 30, 2010? For Year 2 of the grant, can we award funds to the 15 months, 4 semesters beginning with Summer session students? Or must the grant year always be September 30 – September 29?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full calendar or academic year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program. The budget period is always September 30 – September 29 for each of the five budget periods although the student may receive the funds across the fiscal years.

**Do we have to identify specific students at the time of application submission or just numbers?**

Specific students do not have to be identified at the time of application submission, only report actual or projected numbers.

**Is it the student's choice to use stipends for non-tuition related expenses?**

A “**Stipend**” means a payment made to an individual under a fellowship or training grant in accordance with established levels to provide for the individual's reasonable living expenses during the period of training and other educational expenses.

**Are there any financial restrictions related to a student's income level?**

This is not a need based program. The FOA does not cite any restrictions.

**Is there any additional restriction about how the money can be used other than “NOT FOR TRAINEE'S TRAVEL INCLUDING DAILY COMMUTING?”**

The FOA does not cite any additional restrictions. The applicant may not budget for “Trainee Travel” costs.

**Can the money be given as a scholarship?**

The FOA indicates support must be paid as a “stipend”. This is not a loan and the applicant does not have to pay it back.

**Can the money be put into a student account (half the first semester and half the second semester) if it is within the same academic calendar year?**

The FOA indicates the institution may manage stipend payments in accordance with institutional policy.

**Do we have to set up a stipend account in which the students receive a portion of the \$22,000 weekly/monthly?**

The FOA indicates the institution may manage the stipend payment in accordance with institutional policy.

**If so, is this amount taxable?**

Per the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), stipends are subject to income tax.

**Do you anticipate any additional restrictions added at the time of the award?**

We are not aware of any additional restrictions, at this time.

**How do you calculate the requested amount based on the stipulation in the FOA that students may only receive \$22,000 per year? Can we prorate the \$22,000 per year based on partial year need to complete the last two years of the MSN and DNP programs since that is the way our curriculum is set up?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Do we need to account for faculty, name the faculty, and describe the faculty?**

Explain the Faculty resources that you have in place to carry out the educational program.

See page 10 of the ANEE FOA – Other Limitations: Applicants should name one Project Director. The Project Director for the ANEE grant should be licensed as a registered nurse, and have a faculty appointment in the School.

See page 19 of the ANEE FOA – Roles and Responsibilities: A copy of the Biographical Sketch for the Project Director that will be assigned to work on the proposed project must be uploaded and included in SF-424 R&R: Senior/Key Personnel Profile. Specifically describe the functions and time commitment of the Project Director. The Project Director must be a faculty member at the school.

**“The project will be operational; will have active enrollees, by the second semester/term after funding.” Since the funding starts September 30, 2010, does the above statement mean that the new Full-Time students will start Fall Term 2011?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Our students only need to take 6 credits in the fourth and final semester Should we apply for 2 years of funding for our full time students or only one year?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA; however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

According to page 17 of the FOA, The program provides master's, post master's and, on a limited basis, doctor of nursing practice students with stipends, educational expenses or other reasonable living expenses for \$22,000 per student per year, for a maximum of two years per student.

**Are there any stipulations against students supported by this program working other jobs in addition to their full-time status as students?**

The ANEE FOA does not stipulate that students may not work.

**We intend to request funds to convert part-time Nurse Practitioner (NP) students to full-time. Our institution defines full-time as eight credits per semester. However, since our NP program is 42 total credit hours, there is inevitably one semester that students are not technically full-time. Is this a concern?**

A student is eligible to participate in the program at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the NGA, however, the student may only be funded for a full year of support (not a half a year or one semester) and therefore must have a full year of study remaining in their program.

**Are there any preferences or priorities?**

No, there are no statutory funding preferences or priorities for this funding opportunity.

**Do I need to complete the first part of the application process now in Grants.gov in order to be able to access the rest of the application in the HRSA EHBs? With the currently available package, there is no opportunity to submit the program abstract, narrative, or attachments.**

Applicants may simultaneously submit application materials in both Grants.gov and the HRSA EHBs immediately. Applicants do not need to submit to Grants.gov and wait for notification prior to entering the HRSA EHBs. Rather, applicants are urged to enter the EHBs immediately to begin this process. Applicants MUST, however, submit the appropriate application materials through both Grants.gov and the EHBs prior to the deadline in order to be considered eligible for the funding opportunity. It is incumbent on applicants to ensure that the Authorized Organizational Representative is available to submit the application to HRSA by the application due date.

**How will ANEE funding be delivered to grantees?**

Grantees will receive ANEE funds much in the same way schools get their current HRSA funding via the PMS; a NGA will be issued under a different grant number. For information regarding the drawdown of your awarded funds, contact your account representative at 1-877-614-5533 or <http://www.dpm.psc.gov/>. Grantees should drawdown funds based on the needs of the ANEE project.

## Reporting

### Are there any special reporting requirements for these funds?

All Bureau of Health Professions grantees are required to submit an annual two-part progress report. The first part demonstrates grantee progress on program-specific goals. The second part collects core performance measurement data to measure the Bureau's progress through its grantees in: (1) improving the distribution, diversity, and quality of the healthcare workforce, (2) improving the educational environment infrastructure, and (3) increasing students' selection of primary care education. Awarded projects will receive further information on data submission.

Grantees are required to report, by specialty, on the following:

1. the number of enrollees and graduates the school had over the past three years;
2. the projected number of students to be enrolled and graduated in the next five years (not taking into account the impact of the project);
3. the number of students funded by the ANEE program, both enrolled and graduated, and any additional funding supporting these students received during the reporting period;
4. the number of additional, new, ANEE supported students projected for enrollment for the remainder of the project period if it has changed since last reported; and
5. the number of part time students enrolled and, as a result of this funding support, converted to full-time to complete the program.

All BHP grantees are also required to submit a final report at the end of the grant. Grantees must submit the final report on-line in the Electronic Handbook's system at <https://grants.hrsa.gov/webexternal/home.asp>. The final report must include program-specific goals, core performance measurement data, grantee objectives and accomplishments, barriers encountered, and responses to summary questions regarding the grantee's overall experiences over the entire project period.

HRSA encourages, but doesn't require, programs to follow their graduates for more than the first year after program completion to evaluate the effectiveness of their training program in producing graduates who provide high quality, culturally and linguistically appropriate (primary) care to underserved populations. The Affordable Care Act authorizes HRSA to fund such longitudinal evaluations by its grantees. HRSA anticipates establishing guidelines for these evaluations in the coming year and requesting applications from existing grantees to conduct evaluations (pending availability of appropriations for this activity).